

REMARKS

Claims 4-14 and 24-25 are pending. Entry of the foregoing amendments into the file history of the above-identified application is respectfully requested. Applicants believe that the pending claims are in condition for allowance. Appendix I is submitted herewith, indicating the amendments to the claims.

Respectfully submitted,

Carmella L. Stephens

Henry Tang
Patent Office Reg. No. 29,705
Attorney for Applicants

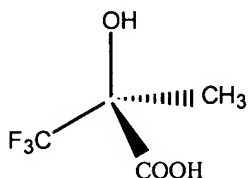
Carmella L. Stephens
Patent Office Reg. No. 41,328
Agent for Applicants
(212) 408-2539

IN THE CLAIMS:

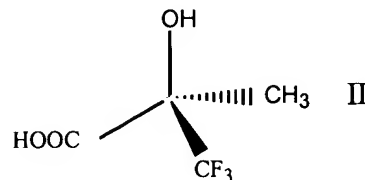
Please cancel claims 1-3 and 15-23, without prejudice.

Please add the following new claims:

--24. (New) A process for the preparation of (S) - or (R) -3, 3, 3-trifluoro-2-hydroxy-2-methylpropionic acid of the formula:

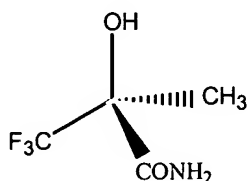


I

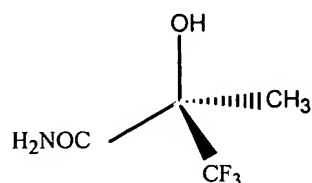


II

and/or of (R) - or (S) -3, 3, 3-trifluoro-2-hydroxy-2-methylpropionamide of the formula

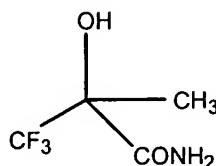


VII



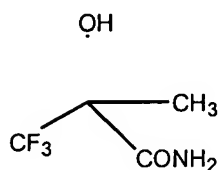
VIII

comprising the conversion of propionamide of the formula



VI

into the compounds of the formulae I, II, VII or VIII using a polypeptide having
amidohydrolase activity capable of hydrolysing (R)-3, 3, 3-tri fluoro-2-hydroxy-2-
methylpropionamide of the formula



VI

25. (New) The process of claim 22 utilizing the polypeptide of claim 5.--